MMHCC
the Mouse Models of Human Cancers Consortium

MMHCC Newsletter February 2005

MouseLine

caArray 1.0 Released

The National Cancer Institute's Center for Bioinformatics (NCICB) is pleased to announce the release of caArray database version 1.0, a standard-based, open-source data management system developed for the management and publication of microarray data produced by NCI supported programs. The caArray database was developed to be consistent with caBIG (Cancer Bioinformatics Grid) principles, and features MIAME 1.1 compliant data annotation forms, MAGE-ML import and export, and controlled vocabularies (MGED ontology) from a shared, publicly accessible metadata repository (caDSR) and enterprise vocabulary services (EVS) from the NCI. CaArray also provides Application Programming Interfaces (APIs) for programmatic access to microarray data. Data submission portal can be accessed via the following URL http://caarraydb.nci.nih.gov. Technical documentation and the source code are available at the NCICB download site http://ncicb.nci.nih.gov/download to facilitate local caArray installations.

caArray Training Sessions Offered at 96th AACR Meeting

If you are interested in learning more about caArray, you are welcome to participate in the caArray training sessions at the 96th Annual AACR meeting in Anaheim, CA. The training sessions will be open to the public and will feature:

- 3 one hour overview sessions
- 3 two hour hands on sessions
- five computers available for the hands on sessions
- additional chairs for gallery seating
- the sessions will be projected on a screen

The training sessions will be offered over two days, April 18-19, in the Monterey Room at the Hilton Anaheim. A more detailed schedule will be available shortly on the emice website (http://emice.nci.nih.gov/emice/news). Special training session for MMHCC associates will be scheduled if needed. Please contact Dr. Mervi Heiskanen (heiskame@mail.nih.gov) if you are interested participating in the public training sessions, or Dr. Betty Tarnowski (tarnowsb@mail.nih.gov) for the MMHCC special session.

Selected Meetings

April 16 - 20, 2005
96th Annual AACR Meeting
Anaheim, California
Meeting information: http://www.aacr.org

Selected Meetings cont.

April 18-19, 2005
NCI training for potential users of caArray
96th Annual AACR Meeting
Carmel Room, Hilton Anaheim
For more information regarding these training sessions please contact Dr. Mervi Heiskanen (heiskame@mail.nih.gov)

May 16 - 18, 2005
Improving the Predictive Value of Mouse Models in Drug Discovery and Development
Bar Harbor, Maine
Meeting Information: http://www.jax.org/pharma/discovery

June 22 - 26, 2005
Symposium of Molecular Biology of Breast Cancer
Molde, Norway
Meeting Information: http://www.mbbc.no
Registration deadline: March 1st, 2005

For more meetings and meeting information see:
http://emice.nci.nih.gov/emice/communication/calendar/index.html

Funding Opportunities

Primary Rodent Production Center
NOT-CA-04-026
National Cancer Institute
http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-CA-04-026.html

Request for Information: Notice of Comprehensive Identification of Tumor Mutations
NOT-CA-05-010
National Cancer Institute
http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-CA-05-010.html

Molecular Approaches to Diet and Pancreatic Cancer Prevention
PA-05-040
National Cancer Institute
National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism
http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-05-040.html

Funding Opportunities cont.

National Brain Tumor Foundation Grant Funding Available
The National Brain Tumor Foundation is pleased to announce that applications are now being accepted for our 2005 research grants.
The deadline for applications is Friday, March 4, 2005. Grants are awarded in June 2005.
For more information please visit the NBTF web site at
http://www.braintumor.org/research/funding_available/

Bioinformatics

caBIG – cancer Biomedical Informatics Grid

http://cabig.nci.nih.gov
caBIG (cancer Biomedical Informatics Grid) is an open-source, open-access, voluntary information network that enables cancer researchers to share tools, standards, data, applications, and technologies according to agreed upon common standards and needs. caBIG is creating an informatics infrastructure to link teams of cancer and biomedical researchers as part of a collaborative network or grid.
The caBIG initiative was announced in July 2003 as a pilot study and was launched in February 2004. Nearly 500 people from approximately 50 National Cancer Institute (NCI)-designated Cancer Centers and other organizations are working collaboratively on 70 projects in a three-year pilot project. caBIG leverages the combined strengths of the NCI, its national Cancer Centers, and other investigators in the cancer research field. caBIG delivers tools and applications, all freely available to the community and other interested stakeholders.
caBIG activities are conducted through the coordination of three Strategic Level Working Groups and five Workspaces. These groups meet regularly via teleconferences and face-to-face meetings. Teleconferences are open to anyone who wishes to participate.

- **Strategic Level Working Groups**

- Strategic Planning
  http://cabig.nci.nih.gov/working_groups/SP_SLWG/index_html/document_view
  Purpose: Assist the caBIG Oversight Board with strategic planning and vision development activities.

- Data Sharing and Intellectual Capital
  http://cabig.nci.nih.gov/working_groups/DSIC_SLWG/index_html/document_view
  Purpose: Addresses issues related to data sharing and intellectual capital associated with caBIG and develops recommendations to the caBIG Oversight Board.

- Training
  http://cabig.nci.nih.gov/working_groups/Training_SLWG/
  Purpose: Define the framework and standards against which individual Workspaces and Project Groups can develop and communicate about tools and solutions.

Bioinformatics – caBIG cont.

Workspaces:

- Clinical Trial Management Systems (Pilot Domain Workspace)
  http://cabig.nci.nih.gov/workspaces/CTMS/
  Purpose: Deploy and develop caBIG compliant tools to support data capture/analysis and management of clinical trials.

- Integrative Cancer Research Workspace (Pilot Domain Workspace)
  http://cabig.nci.nih.gov/workspaces/ICR/
  Purpose: Assemble data, tools, and infrastructure that facilitate the cross silo use of cancer biology information to promote integrated cancer research.

- Tissue Banks and Pathology Tools Workspace (Pilot Domain Workspace)
  http://cabig.nci.nih.gov/workspaces/TBPT/
  Purpose: Develop a set of tools to inventory, track, mine, and visualize tissue samples and related information from a geographically dispersed repository.

- Architecture (Pilot Cross Cutting Workspace)
  http://cabig.nci.nih.gov/workspaces/Architecture/
  Purpose: Extend architecture/infrastructure frameworks and standards to support caBIG tools and data access. Topics in this workspace include Middleware, Application and data access APIs, Data transmission formats, Web services components, Grid computing services, and security architecture.

- Vocabularies and Common Data Elements (Pilot Cross Cutting Workspace)
  http://cabig.nci.nih.gov/workspaces/VCDE/
  Purpose: Create and maintain software systems for content development and content delivery; provide assessment of, and recommendations on vocabularies and common data elements.

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